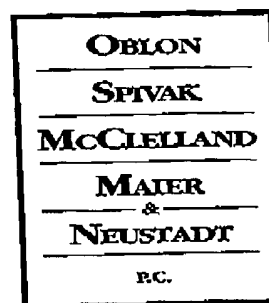


OFFICIAL

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUN 17 2004

Docket No.: 249532US0DIV

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/786,548
Applicants: Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.
Filing Date: February 26, 2004
For: TONER, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE
TONER, AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND
APPARATUS USING THE TONER
Group Art Unit: 2852

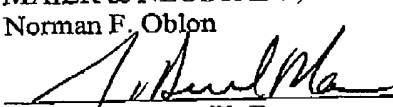
SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Information Disclosure Statement, Chinese Office Action, PTO Form 1449 (9 pp.)

Our check in the amount of -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon
J. Derek Mason, Ph.D.

Registration No. 35,270

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)1040 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314 U.S.A.
TELEPHONE: 703-413-3000 FACSIMILE: 703-413-2220 WWW.OBLON.COM

P 4
OFFICIAL

Docket No. 249532USODIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/786,548

GAU: 2852

FILED: February 26, 2004

EXAMINER:

FOR: TONER, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE TONER, AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND APPARATUS USING THE TONER

JUN 17 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are NOT attached because they were previously filed in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/965,826, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

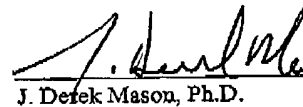
- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon


J. Derek Mason, Ph.D.

Registration No. 35,270

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)

OFFICIAL

RECEIVED

CENTRAL FAX CENTER

NO. 076

P. 10

JUN 17 2004

SHEET 1 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,882,832	03/16/99	TOSAKA, ET AL.			
	AB	5,429,901	07/04/95	MUTO, ET AL.			
	AC	5,368,972	11/29/94	YAMASHITA, ET AL.			
	AD	5,168,028	12/01/92	NANYA, ET AL.			
	AE	4,956,258	09/11/90	WATANABE, ET AL.			
	AF	4,908,290	03/13/90	WATANABE, ET AL.			
	AG	6,004,715	12/21/99	SUZUKI, ET AL.			
	AH	6,074,794	06/13/00	FUSHIMI, ET AL.			
	AI	6,010,814	01/04/00	KOTSUGAI, ET AL.			
	AJ	6,180,298	01/30/01	KURODA, ET AL.			
	AK	6,074,795	06/13/00	WATANABE, ET AL.			
	AL	6,103,441	08/15/00	TOMITA, ET AL.			
	AM	6,303,258	10/16/01	KATOH, ET AL.			
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

SHEET 2 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,935,751	08/10/99	MUTSUOKA, ET AL.			
	AB	4,702,988	10/27/87	IMAI, ET AL.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO	0 872 774	10/21/98	EUROPE			
	AP	0 926 563	06/30/99	EUROPE			
	AQ	1 168 089	01/02/02	EUROPE			
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW	Patent Abstracts of Japan, JP 2000-075536, March 14, 2000.					
	AX	Chinese Office Action w/ corresponding U.S. Application 5,935,751.					
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
AA	5,554,478	09/10/96	KURAMOTO, ET AL.				
AB	5,403,690	04/04/95	KURAMOTO, ET AL.				
AC	5,879,849	03/09/99	SAWADA, ET AL.				
AD							
AE							
AF							
AG							
AH							
AI							
AJ							
AK							
AL							
AM							
AN							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO			
AO							
AP							
AQ							
AR							
AS							
AT							
AU							
AV							
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
AW							
AX							
AY							
AZ							
				<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached			
Examiner				Date Considered			
<small>*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,288,577	02/22/94	YAMAGUCHI, ET AL.			
	AB	6,303,257	10/16/01	HASEGAWA, ET AL.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner						Date Considered	
<small>*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							

SHEET 5 OF 9

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.		GROUP 2852	
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,721,083	02/24/98	MASUDA, ET AL.			
	AB	5,554,478	09/10/96	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
	AC	5,403,690	04/04/95	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
	AD	5,344,732	09/06/94	CHIBA, ET AL.			
	AE	4,980,258	12/25/80	AOKI, ET AL.			
	AF	4,933,250	06/12/90	NAKAYAMA, ET AL.			
	AG	4,950,573	08/21/90	YAMAGUCHI, ET AL.			
	AH	4,762,763	08/09/88	NOMURA, ET AL.			
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.		GROUP 2852	
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,363,229	03/26/02	SHIRAIISHI, ET AL.			
	AB	6,258,502	07/10/01	NAKAMURA, ET AL.			
	AC	6,406,826	06/18/02	SUZUKI, ET AL.			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,360,068	03/19/02	KINOSHITA, ET AL.			
	AB	6,395,443	05/28/02	KURODA, ET AL.			
	AC	6,403,275	06/11/02	KURAMOTO, ET AL.			
	AD	6,432,589	08/13/02	UCHINOKURA, ET AL.			
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,335,137	01/01/02	SUZUKI, ET AL.			
	AB	6,168,894	01/02/01	AOKI, ET AL.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ						<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached
Examiner					Date Considered		
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249532US0DIV		SERIAL NO. 10/786,548	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Hiroto HIGUCHI, et al.			
				FILING DATE February 26, 2004		GROUP 2852	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA	6,337,957	01/08/02	TAMAKI, ET AL.			
	AB	6,442,364	08/27/02	KAI, ET AL.			
	AC	6,468,706	10/22/02	MATSUDA, ET AL.			
	AD	6,507,718	01/14/03	OHJIMI, ET AL.			
	AE	6,505,014	01/07/03	AOKI, ET AL.			
	AF	6,238,835	05/01	TAVERNIER, ET AL.			
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES NO			
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AW						
	AX						
	AY						
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner				Date Considered			
<small>*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>							